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Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process ?

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Dow Pesticide Chlorpyrifos Will Get Review This Year: Pruitt

By Tiffany Stecker 6/27/17

The EPA will make a determination on whether to further regulate the insecticide chlorpyrifos by Oct. 1, five years earlier than when the agency previously said it would make a decision.

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt said twice at a Senate budget hearing June 27 that the agency will decide whether to apply additional restrictions to the bug killer this year, and not in 2022.

Pruitt denied a decade-old petition March 29 to revoke nearly all uses of chlorpyrifos, a widely used insecticide that has been linked to neurodevelopmental delays in children.

The decision, he told the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, was a result of speaking with officials at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, who expressed concerns over the scientific underpinnings of a possible ban on the chemical.

The science “was questionable,” according to the USDA, Pruitt said.

The Obama administration issued a proposed rule to revoke most tolerances for the chemical, based on studies that showed children exposed in utero to be more susceptible to autism, low IQ, and other neurological problems.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has been asked to weigh in on the denial of the petition, which was hailed as a victory by farmers and chlorpyrifos's manufacturer, Dow Agrosciences.

The American Academy of Pediatrics sent a letter to Pruitt June 27, asking the administrator to ban the insecticide.

“We are deeply alarmed that the EPA’s decision to allow the continued use of chlorpyrifos contradicts the agency’s own science and puts developing fetuses, infants, children, and pregnant women at risk,” the academy said in the letter.

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Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy